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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/507,500	09/13/2004	Wolfgang-Alexander Simon	26307	6381

34375 7590 04/25/2006

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EXAMINER

SPIVACK, PHYLLIS G

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1614

DATE MAILED: 04/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/507,500	Applicant(s) SIMON, WOLFGANG-ALEXANDER	
	Examiner Phyllis G. Spivack	Art Unit 1614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 February 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,6,9 and 10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,6,9 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Applicant's Amendment filed February 6, 2006 is acknowledged. Claims 7 and 8 are canceled. Claims 1, 6, 9 and 10 remain under consideration.

In the last Office Action the active claims were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over various claims in four co-pending applications.

Applicant has presently elected to hold these issues in abeyance.

The active claims in the last Office Action were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. It was asserted there are no working examples directed to a treatment modality of any airway disorder. Applicant has not described with sufficient clarity a proton pump inhibitor for treating airway disorders. (The Examiner regrets the inadvertent typographical error in that the rejection of claims 1 and 7- "15" should have been -- 1-10 --.)

Applicant argues the amendment to claim 1 wherein the deletion of "proton pump inhibitor" and the insertion of 5-difluoromethoxy-2-[(3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyrinyl)methylsulphanyl]-1H-benzimidazole therefor conveys to a person of ordinary skill in the art that the inventor had possession of the claimed invention.

Applicant's argument is not persuasive for the reasons of record. The rejection of claims 1, 6, 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, is maintained.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 6, 7 and 9 that were rejected in the last Office Action under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Meier et al., Digestive Diseases and Sciences, have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground of rejection.

Art Unit: 1614

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 6, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cuppoletti, J., U.S. Patent 6,159,968.

Cuppoletti teaches the administration of pantoprazole, and isomers or physiologically acceptable salts thereof, in the treatment of the airway disorder cystic fibrosis. See columns 11-13 where various pharmaceutical compositions are disclosed.

No claim is allowed.

Applicant's Amendment necessitated the new ground of rejection presented in this Office Action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this Final Action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this Action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this Final Action and the Advisory Action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the Advisory Action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the Advisory Action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this Final Action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Phyllis G. Spivack whose telephone number is 571-272-0585. The Examiner can normally be reached from 10:30 to 7 PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Christopher Low, can be reached 571-272-951. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

April 22, 2006


Phyllis G. Spivack
1614
PHYLLIS SPIVACK
PRIMARY EXAMINER